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1767-1773

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Princess Anne  
Public Worship

Central to the history of the Anglican Church of Somerset County is St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, contracted and built between 1767 and 1773. During the third quarter of the eighteenth century, it was decided to abandon King's Mill Chapel and relocate the Chapel of Ease for Somerset Parish in Princess Anne. After petitioning the General Assembly of Maryland, Lots 27 and 28 were purchased from Robert Geddes for £28 on February 17, 1767. Little more than a month later, the vestry advanced the plans for the new church. It was agreed that the church would be, "sixty feet in length and forty feet in width in the clear-exclusive of an arch or Simey Circle (semi-circle) for the Communion Table or Chancel, the walls to be twenty feet high between the surface of the Earth and the wall plates...four windows to be in each side, each window to contain forty eight panes of glass, the glass to be eight inches by ten inches, exclusive of an arch over each window...and also build a belfry to the said chapel provided two workmen can complete the same in twenty four hours-otherwise to be paid for the time over and above in preparation for the said work." It was agreed the same day that Levin Ballard would build the ~~old chapel~~ chapel.

Construction of the Flemish bond brick church continued through the early 1770s. On August 7, 1770, the vestry ordered that advertisements be set to meet in Princess Anne in order to agree with any persons who are, "inclined to undertake to build a pulpit in the new chapel in Princess Anne Town of the same form of the Pulpit in the old chapel at King's Mill only the back of the Pulpit to be plastered." Finally on September 16, 1773, the pews were allotted.

Significant changes were not made to the eighteenth-century church until 1859, when the northeast tower was erected. Through the following half century the entire interior was reworked in Gothic Revival taste with an exposed timber truss and Victorian church furniture. The broach spire was raised in 1896. Both the exterior and interior have remained essentially unchanged since the turn of the century.

1. STATE Maryland  
COUNTY Somerset  
TOWN Princess Anne VICINITY  
STREET NO. Beckford Avenue  
*(Church St & A. M. ...)*  
ORIGINAL OWNER St. Andrew's Parish  
ORIGINAL USE Church  
PRESENT OWNER St. Andrew's Parish  
PRESENT USE Church  
WALL CONSTRUCTION Flemish bond brick  
NO. OF STORIES 1 1/2 w higher tower

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
INVENTORY

2. NAME St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
DATE OR PERIOD 1740 and later  
STYLE Colonial w/Victorian alterations  
ARCHITECT  
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

## 4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC yes

St. Andrew's Parish Church was originally built as a Chapel of Ease to All Saints Church at Monie. The present structure was built in 1770. The tower was added in 1859 and the spire and chapel in 1893. The main church building has an "A"-roof and is 2 bays wide and 4 bays deep. All of the windows have rounded arches and contain stained Victorian glass. The old line of the walls, with glazed headers, is visible up to the pediment on the end walls - above this line the brick is new. This evidence makes it likely that the original structure had a hipped roof which was altered to an A-roof in Victorian times.

All of the interior woodwork and decoration of the church are Victorian and the only 18th century relies are the exterior brick walls of the main building. The church is well kept up in the center of Princess Anne. It has an attractive cemetery with many interesting old stones. The structure with its many additions is very pleasing. The tower is Italian in style and blends well with the rest of the structure.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

Exterior Well kept up



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)  
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

7. PHOTOGRAPH

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

Paul A. Brinkman

DATE OF RECORD August 1, 1967

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

Somerset Ch. - 3  
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ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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BUILT IN 1770

Taken from The Eastern Shore Churchman, April, 1952

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Historic old St. Andrew's Church, Princess Anne, Parish Church of Somerset Parish, was built in 1770 on a parcel of ground purchased three years earlier from Robert Gaddis. It cost 1400 lbs. of tobacco, the equivalent of 800 lbs. sterling.

It was first a Chapel-of-ease to an older parish church, which stood about ten miles southwest of Princess Anne, at a point now covered by the waters of the Manokin River, between the present Almodington and Elmwood estates.

Somerset Parish had its beginning in 1692, when an act of the Colonial Legislature of Maryland partitioned the Province into thirty of these ecclesiastical sub-divisions.

This is not to suggest that the work of the Church in this area did not antedate 1692, for from the time Englishmen first set foot in Baltimore's colony they carried their Church with them; and while congregations were scattered and priests few, the sacraments continued to be administered uninterruptedly and services of worship were held regularly in many places. The act of 1692 "for the service of Almighty God and the Establishment of Religion in this Province," simply created a parochial organization.

St. Andrew's was successor also to another place of worship, King's Mill Chapel which stood at King's Creek on two acres of land purchased from Whittington King for 500 lbs. of tobacco. When King's Mill Chapel became so old and dilapidated as to be unfit for use, steps were taken for the erection of the building at Princess Anne.

Although in use from 1770 onward, the present parish church remained nameless until November 11, 1845, when the Right Reverend William Rollinson Whittingham, fourth Bishop of Maryland, consecrated the building to the glory of God and placed it under the patronage of St. Andrew.

St. Andrew's Church remained practically in its original shape until 1859, when the tower was added as a gift from Mr. William W. Johnston, a member of the Vestry at that time. The tower was originally taller than at present, and had an open work at the top in which the bell rested. In 1893 the upper stories of the tower were removed and the present spire was erected.

About 1865 the original pulpit, reading desk and Communion table were taken out, and replaced by a solid walnut altar, lectern and pulpit. Originally the church had two aisles, with a block of pews in the center and other seats between the aisles and the

north and south walls. The renovation created the present arrangement of pews and broad center aisle.

Subsequent changes in the fabric of the building followed in 1897, when St. Andrew's was practically rebuilt except for the north, south and west walls. The chancel was considerably deepened and raised, the beautiful open work roof of Georgia pine was added. The present marble high altar was dedicated as a memorial to the Right Rev. Henry Champlin Lay, first Bishop of Easton; pulpit, credence table and other furnishings are also memorials.

St. Andrew's today is rich in memorial gifts, practically all the furnishings of the church having come into the possession of the Parish in this way. Prominent among these are the stained glass windows, a striking reproduction of the Murillo Madonna which hangs in the chapel and the Epiphany mosaic over the high altar.

The most recent addition to St. Andrew's is the chapel, originally built and attached to the church building to provide a meeting place for the Church School. In 1935, several years after the parish house had been erected by St. Andrew's Women's Guild and the Church School moved there, the Young People's Society fitted out the former schoolroom as a chapel. It was dedicated on St. Andrew's Day, 1935.

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St. Andrews Episcopal Church      S-3  
Princess Anne, Somerset Co., Md.  
Southwest Elevation  
4/87, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



St Andrew's Episcopal Church

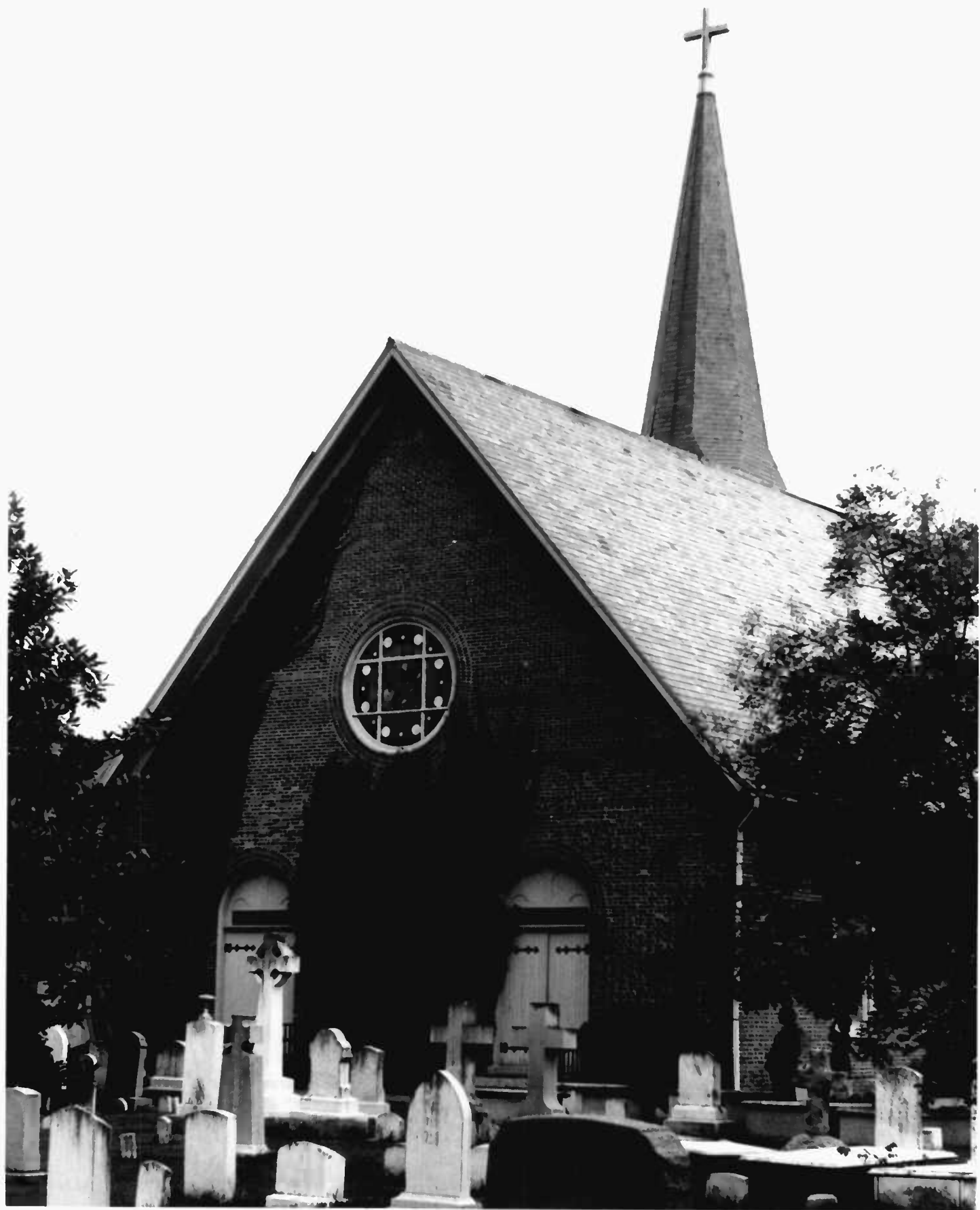
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St. Andrews Episcopal Church                      S-3  
East Elevation, Documentary, c. 1900-1910  
Princess Anne, Maryland  
Photographer-                      Brown  
Collection of W. Marshall Scott  
Copied 1984 Paul Touart  
Neg/Md. Hist. Trust



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church      S-3  
Princess Anne, Somerset County, Md.  
Northwest Elevation  
5/85 Paul Touart, Photographer  
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St. Andrew's Church S-3



Photographed by  
DANIEL C. CHURCH